

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. – 38. (Canceled.)

39. (Previously Added.) A polymeric material incorporating an infection resistant biguanide ~~compound~~ pendant to the polymer chain, being chemically bound thereto through some but not all of the amine nitrogen atoms of the -NH-C(NH)-NH-C(NH)-NH- biguanide group or groups of the infection resistant biguanide ~~compound~~, and the said chemical binding to secondary amine nitrogen atoms is by means of a substituted urea linkage, or a substituted thiourea linkage, or a N,N-disubstituted amide linkage, or a N,N-disubstituted hemiaminal or amination linkage, or a tertiary amine linkage.

40. (Currently Amended.) A polymeric material according to claim-~~1~~ 39 wherein the biguanide ~~compound~~ is the residue of chlorhexidine or polyhexanide.

41. (Previously Added.) A medical device comprising a polymeric material incorporating an infection resistant biguanide ~~compound~~ pendant to the polymer chain, being chemically bound thereto through some but not all of the amine nitrogen atoms of the -NH-C(NH)-NH-C(NH)-NH- biguanide group or groups of the infection resistant biguanide ~~compound~~, and the said chemical binding to secondary amine nitrogen atoms is by means of a substituted urea linkage, or a substituted thiourea linkage, or a N,N-disubstituted amide linkage, or a N,N-disubstituted hemiaminal or amination linkage, or a tertiary amine linkage.

42. (Currently Amended.) A medical device according to claim-~~3~~ 41 wherein the biguanide ~~compound~~ is a residue of chlorhexidine or polyhexanide.

43. (Currently Amended.) A medical device according to claim-~~3~~ 41 wherein the medical device is formed from or coated with the polymeric material incorporating the infection resistant biguanide ~~compound~~, or the medical device is first formed from or coated with polymeric

material which is thereafter chemically bound to some but not all of the nitrogen atoms of the infection resistant biguanide-~~compound~~, or the medical device is first formed from or coated with polymeric material which is thereafter chemically bound to the residuum of a non-polymeric compound that has been bound to some but not all of the nitrogen atoms of the infection resistant biguanide-~~compound~~.

44. (Currently Amended.) A medical device according to claim-~~3~~ 41 formed as a contact lens or intra-ocular lens.

45. (Previously Added.) A method of making an infection resistant polymeric material according to claim 1 which comprises chemically binding reactive sites on a polymeric material with some but not all of the amine nitrogen atoms of the -NH-C(NH)-NH-C(NH)-NH- biguanide group or groups of the infection resistant biguanide-~~compound~~ by means of a substituted urea linkage, or a substituted thiourea linkage, or a N,N-disubstituted amide linkage, or a N,N-disubstituted hemiaminal or ainal linkage, or a tertiary amine linkage.

46. (Currently Amended.) A method according to claim-~~7~~ 45 which comprises the preliminary step of forming a partial free base of the biguanide-~~compound~~ before binding the reactive sites with the nitrogen atoms.

47. (Currently Amended.) A method according to claim-~~7~~ 45 wherein the reactive sites comprise isocyanate, isothiocyanate, epoxide, acid chloride, acid anhydride, aldehyde, ketone or unsaturated sites.

48. (Currently Amended.) A method according to claim-~~7~~ 45 wherein the reactive sites comprise hydroxyl, carboxyl or amino groups and the binding to the nitrogen atoms is carried out in the presence of a carbonyl diimidazole or carbodiimide coupling agent.

49. (Previously Added.) A method of making an infection resistant polymeric material which comprises modifying a polymer precursor by chemically binding some but not all of the amine nitrogen atoms of ~~the~~ a-NH-C(NH)-NH-C(NH)-NH-biguanide group or groups of ~~the~~ an

infection resistant biguanide-~~compound~~ by means of a substituted urea linkage, or a substituted thiourea linkage, or a N,N-disubstituted amide linkage, or a N,N-disubstituted hemiaminal or aминаl linkage, or a tertiary amine linkage, with reactive sites on the polymer precursor, and thereafter converting the so modified polymer precursor to an infection resistant polymeric material by a method including a polymerisation step.

50. (Currently Amended.) A method according to claim-~~44~~ 49 which comprises the preliminary step of forming a partial free base of the biguanide-~~compound~~ before binding the reactive sites with the nitrogen atoms.

51. (Currently Amended.) A method according to claim-~~44~~ 49 wherein the reactive sites comprise isocyanate, isothiocyanate, epoxide, acid chloride, acid anhydride, aldehyde, ketone or unsaturated sites.

52. (Currently Amended.) A method according to claim-~~44~~ 49 wherein the reactive sites comprise hydroxyl, carboxyl or amino groups and the binding to the nitrogen atoms is carried out in the presence of a carbonyl diimidazole or carbodimide coupling agent.

53. (Currently Amended.) A method according to claim-~~44~~ 49 wherein the polymer precursor also contains acrylate, methacrylate, allyl or vinyl groups, and the polymerisation step is carried out by polymerising the modified polymer precursor through the said groups.

54. (Currently Amended.) A method of making an infection resistant polymeric material according to claim 1 which comprises modifying a non-polymeric compound by chemically binding some but not all of the amine nitrogen atoms of the -NH-C(NH)-NH-C(NH)-NH-biguanide group or groups of the infection resistant biguanide-~~compound~~ by means of a substituted urea linkage, or a substituted thiourea linkage, or a N,N-disubstituted amide linkage, or a N,N-disubstituted hemiaminal or aминаl linkage, or a tertiary amine linkage-~~an infection resistant biguanide compound~~, with reactive sites on the non-polymeric compound, and thereafter chemically binding the so modified compound to a polymeric material.

55. (Currently Amended.) A method according to claim-~~16~~ 54 which comprises the preliminary step of forming a partial free base of the biguanide-~~compound~~ before binding the reactive sites with the nitrogen atoms.

56. (Currently Amended.) A method according to claim-~~16~~ 54 wherein the reactive sites comprise isocyanate, isothiocyanate, epoxide, acid chloride, acid anhydride, aldehyde, ketone or unsaturated sites.

57. (Currently Amended.) A method according to claim-~~16 or 17~~ 54 wherein the reactive sites comprise hydroxyl, carboxyl or amino groups and the binding to the nitrogen atoms is carried out in the presence of a carbonyl diimidazole or carbodiimide coupling agent.

58. (Currently Amended.) A method according to claim-~~16~~ 54 wherein the non-polymeric compound also contains acrylate, methacrylate, allyl or vinyl groups, and the modified compound is chemically bound to a polymeric material through the said groups.

59. (Currently Amended.) A method according to claim-~~7~~ 45 wherein the resulting polymer containing biguanide groups is subsequently blended with other polymeric material to form an infection resistant polymer blend for use in forming an article of manufacture.

60. (Currently Amended.) A method according to claim-~~24~~ 59 wherein the resulting polymer containing biguanide groups is subsequently blended with medically acceptable polymeric material to form an infection resistant medical polymer blend for use in the manufacture of a medical device.

61. (Currently Amended.) A method according to claim-~~22~~ 60 wherein the resulting polymer containing biguanide groups is subsequently blended with ocularly acceptable lens material to form an infection resistant ocular polymer blend for use in the manufacture of a contact or intra-ocular lens.

62. (Currently Amended.) A method according to claim-~~23~~ 61 wherein the resulting polymer containing biguanide groups includes acrylate, methacrylate, allyl or vinyl groups, and the polymer is subsequently copolymerised with ocularly acceptable lens material to form an infection resistant ocular polymer for use in the manufacture of a contact or intra-ocular lens.

63. (Currently Amended.) A method according to claims-~~7~~ 45 wherein the resulting polymer containing biguanide groups is subsequently coated on to an article of manufacture to form an infection resistant coating thereon.

64. (Currently Amended.) A method according to claim-~~7~~ 45 wherein the biguanide compound is chlorhexidine or polyhexanide.

65. (Currently Amended.) A method according to claim-~~26~~ 64 wherein the resulting polymer contains biguanide groups derived from both chlorhexidine and polyhexanide.

66. (New.) A method according to claim 55 wherein the reactive sites comprise hydroxyl, carboxyl or amino groups and the binding to the nitrogen atoms is carried out in the presence of a carbonyl diimidazole or carbidiomide coupling agent.